

# STATE'S ATTORNEY

**PROGRAM:**

Pre-Trial Mediation

**PROGRAM ELEMENT:**

Bad Check Mediation Program

**PROGRAM MISSION:**

To provide the business community with a quick and effective way to recover their losses from bad checks, to identify repeat offenders and concentrate prosecution efforts on those offenders, and to lessen the burden on the court system while producing a successful result for the victim

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES SUPPORTED:**

- A caring and thriving business community
- Respect for the law
- Efficient delivery of quality services

**PROGRAM MEASURES**

	FY01 ACTUAL	FY02 ACTUAL	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY04 ACTUAL	FY05 APPROVED
<b>Outcomes/Results:</b>						
Percentage of mediation cases successfully mediated <sup>a</sup>	68.7	68.1	64.2	68	68.2	69
Monetary restitution recovered (\$)	404,028	308,560	387,501	325,000	246,589	325,000
Percentage of bad check cases recovered without court intervention	65.6	63.3	62.0	65.0	64.0	66.0
Percentage of bad check cases referred to court after failure of mediation	29.8	29.6	34.6	32.0	29.8	31.0
Percentage of bad check cases involving repeat offenders <sup>b</sup>	3.4	6.5	2.3	2.0	6.0	2.0
Fees collected (\$)	22,400	19,520	16,540	24,500	12,615	24,000
<b>Service Quality:</b>						
Percentage of merchants surveyed who rate the quality of service of the program as "excellent" or "good"	95	100	93	95	92	95
<b>Efficiency:</b>						
Average amount per case recovered by the merchant (\$)	259.66	237.90	464.07	250.00	346.82	371.43
Amount recovered for every dollar spent (\$)	4.36	3.26	3.74	3.12	2.26	2.91
<b>Workload/Outputs:</b>						
Mediation cases opened	1,556	1,297	835	1,300	711	875
Cases identified as repeat offenders <sup>b</sup>	48	84	20	26	39	30
<b>Inputs:</b>						
Expenditures (\$) <sup>c</sup>	92,629	94,540	103,703	104,294	109,275	111,766
Workyears <sup>c</sup>	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5

**Notes:**

<sup>a</sup>Mediation cases exclude repeat offenders and a small number of bad check cases that cannot be mediated or prosecuted (e.g. due to lack of witnesses).

<sup>b</sup>Repeat offender cases are taken to court without attempting mediation.

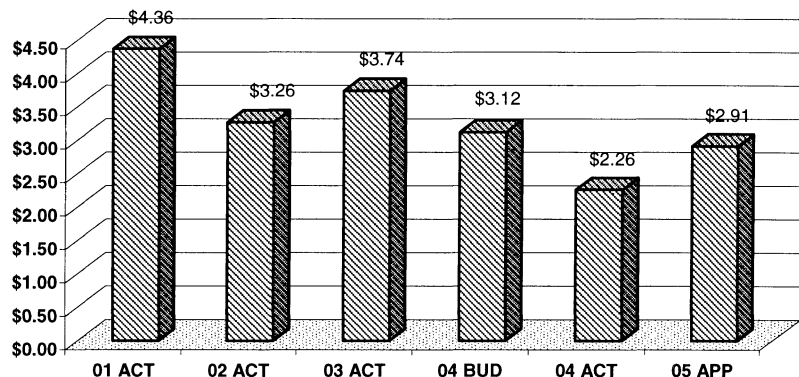
<sup>c</sup>Includes some staff time funded by the District Court.

**EXPLANATION:**

The goals of this program are to recover restitution for merchants who have been given bad checks without having to involve the criminal court system, and to review all bad checks reported in order to identify repeat criminal activity so that such matters can be charged criminally and dealt with by the court.

The success rate for mediation cases was 68.2% in FY04, while revenue from fees (which is returned to the County) totaled \$12,615, and \$2.26 was recovered for every dollar spent on the program. The number of repeat offender cases decreased 19% between FY01 and FY04.

**Amount Recovered per Dollar Spent**



**PROGRAM PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF OUTCOMES:** District Court, Montgomery County Police.

**MAJOR RELATED PLANS AND GUIDELINES:**

# STATE'S ATTORNEY

## PROGRAM:

Pre-Trial Mediation

## PROGRAM ELEMENT:

Rental Return Restitution Program

## PROGRAM MISSION:

To provide the business community with a quick and effective way to recover lost rental property, to identify repeat offenders and concentrate prosecution efforts on those offenders, and to lessen the burden on the court system while producing a successful result for the victim

## COMMUNITY OUTCOMES SUPPORTED:

- A caring and thriving business community
- Respect for the law
- Efficient delivery of quality services

## PROGRAM MEASURES

	FY01 ACTUAL	FY02 ACTUAL	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY04 ACTUAL	FY05 APPROVED
<b>Outcomes/Results:</b>						
Percentage of cases successfully mediated	50.5	61.1	52.7	55	52.4	56
Monetary value of rental property recovered (\$)	111,719	254,357	174,408	210,000	176,080	180,000
Fees collected (\$)	1,270	1,750	1,300	1,600	2,125	3,000
<b>Service Quality:</b>						
Percentage of merchants surveyed who rate the program's quality of service as "good" or "excellent"	NA	83.3	100	90	100	90
<b>Efficiency:</b>						
Average value of leased goods recovered by merchants (\$)	997	1,318	1,264	1,167	1,334	900
Amount recovered for every dollar spent (\$)	19.62	43.56	27.61	33.26	26.60	26.49
<b>Workload/Outputs:</b>						
Mediation cases opened	112	193	138	180	132	200
<b>Inputs:</b>						
Expenditures (\$)	5,694	5,839	6,316	6,314	6,620	6,796
Workyears	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

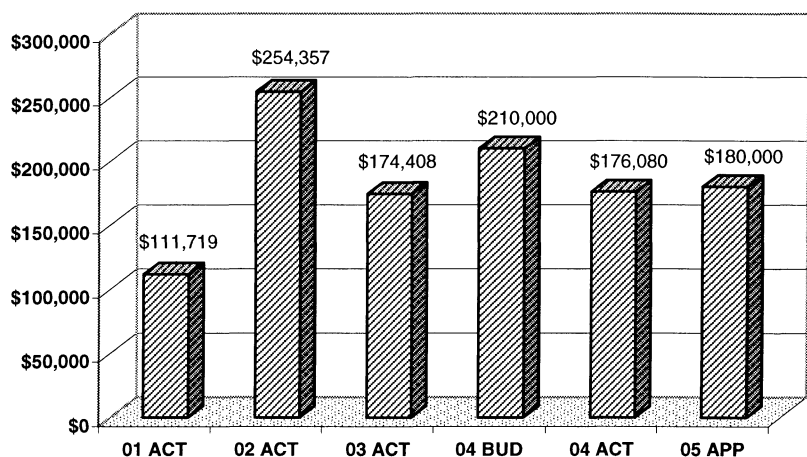
## Notes:

## EXPLANATION:

The goals of this program are to recover rental property and/or secure restitution to those merchants that provide rental services to the public without having to involve the criminal court system. In those cases that cannot be successfully mediated, this program will review the case and prepare charges so that the case can be successfully prosecuted.

Between FY01 and FY04, the value of rental property recovered rose 56%, and the amount recovered per dollar spent increased nearly 36% to \$26.60. Over half of the mediation cases opened were successfully mediated in FY04.

**Monetary Value of Rental Property Recovered**



**PROGRAM PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF OUTCOMES:** Montgomery County Police, District Court.

**MAJOR RELATED PLANS AND GUIDELINES:**